

BEST WISHES TO MICK MULVANEY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2020

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, the people of South Carolina are so appreciative of the achievements and success of former Congressman Mick Mulvaney serving as White House Chief of Staff for President Donald Trump.

I include in the RECORD a deserved tribute published by John Feerhery with his column entitled "Mulvaney fit for Northern Ireland Post" in The HILL on March 10, 2020.

To the untrained eye, Mick Mulvaney's departure as White House chief of staff and appointment as the president's special envoy to Northern Ireland might seem to be a bit curious and a big demotion for the former congressman from South Carolina.

But those who know Irish politics understand that this new assignment is very important to the United States and that Mulvaney is well suited to take it on.

For his entire time in the White House, Mulvaney has developed deep relationships within the Irish government and with key actors in Northern Ireland. These relationships became critical as Great Britain negotiated its departure from the European Union and created a special status for Northern Ireland and its border with the Republic.

Most analysts expect that Great Britain and the United States will start negotiating a free trade agreement once the dust settles on Brexit. But any FTA must acknowledge Northern Ireland and the reality of the all-Ireland economy, a reality that some negotiators might want to ignore. It all gets very complicated.

Ireland has done well over the last decade, bouncing back from the dark days of the 2008 financial crisis. Unemployment is at historic lows, property values are at historic highs, and growth is the strongest of any country in Europe. Multi-national corporations from around the world, especially the United States, choose to headquarter in Ireland because of its highly trained workforce and its very favorable corporate tax rates. Those corporate tax rates cause heartburn in Brussels, but all political parties in Ireland support them, even the left-leaning Sinn Fein.

Northern Ireland has a good story to tell, as well. They have a highly educated population, a favorable regulatory regime and increasingly close economic ties to their island neighbor. But they also have the lingering legacy of the Troubles, pockets of persistent economic hardship, border communities that lack access to any infrastructure and a fragile political structure that hasn't been functioning for over three years.

And the reality is that Northern Ireland and Ireland are, at the moment, two different countries with two different outlooks, two different attitudes towards the future, two different views of the past. Integrating these two different countries economically while respecting their different political and cultural traditions is not going to be easy.

The Good Friday accords, negotiated by George Mitchell, another special envoy from the United States, are the basis for the current power sharing agreement in Northern Ireland. It has been two decades since that agreement was reached, and for the most part, they have held up pretty well. That the United States was central to bringing an end to the Troubles was no accident. No other country has the ability to serve as an honest broker to both sides, a role that continues to this day.

Making sure that the United Kingdom continues to vigilantly honor the Good Friday accords is one of Mick Mulvaney's central tasks. Another is to make certain that Ireland doesn't get ahead of itself when it comes to talk of a unified island. Sinn Fein, the dominant Catholic political party in the North, surprised observers and gathered the most votes in the last election in the Republic. Talk of a new border poll, a vote to see if the majority in the North would want to unify with the South, immediately ensued.

But time is not ripe for those discussions. Let's see how things develop in the post-Brexit world first.

Mick Mulvaney, whose grandparents hail from County Mayo, knows the players and knows the issues that separate them. He knows that America must play the indispensable role in continuing to broker peace and to make sure that Ireland as an island succeeds both economically and socially.

Serving as chief of staff to President Trump undoubtedly had its challenges. This new assignment will prove to be challenging too.

JESLYN TERAN**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2020

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jeslyn Teran for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Jeslyn Teran is a 10th grader at Pinnacle Charter School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jeslyn Teran is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jeslyn Teran for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HOT SPRINGS VILLAGE

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2020

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Hot Springs Village. The largest gated community in North America with land spreading across 20,000 acres of Garland and Saline Counties, Hot Springs Village has long been a community vital to the Fourth District of Arkansas. April 20, 2020 marks 50 years since the community's founding by local developer John Cooper Sr. and his family.

Boasting an extensive list of recreational activities, a deep appreciation for local art, culture, and history, beautiful scenery of the Ouachita Mountains and nearby Hot Springs National Park, Hot Springs Village has be-

come one of the premiere retirement communities and tourist destinations in the United States.

Using the expression "Proud Past and Strong Future," the Hot Springs Village 50th Anniversary Planning Committee strives to make this year-long "party" a celebration of the Village's rich history and a platform to discuss its future successes. While the Village leadership has already hosted several celebration events throughout the early part of this year, local citizens can expect a schedule of events to celebrate the founding of this close-knit community until December 2020.

I take this time to recognize the work of this citizenry's leadership, their commitment to community, and their 50 years of success. For many in the Fourth District of Arkansas, Hot Springs Village serves as a model reminder of the values we all hold dear and the homes we all strive to create.

HEALTH CARE HEROES

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2020

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, all communities are grateful to all our health care heroes in the State of South Carolina. Throughout this national emergency, they have been on the front lines working long hours to keep our communities safe. Hospitals and community medical centers are unselfishly serving patients with the Wuhan Virus.

Citizens correctly appreciate Aiken Regional Medical Center led by CEO Jim O'Loughlin, Lexington Medical Center under the leadership of President and CEO Tod Augsburg, Prisma Health Richland Hospital under guidance of President and CEO Mark O'Halla, Providence Health of Columbia with Terry Gunn's leadership as CEO, Regional Medical Centers Orangeburg Hospital and Bamberg-Barnwell Emergency Medical Center, both under guidance of CEO Charles Williams, and Rural Health Services Inc. led by CEO Carolyn Emanuel-McClain.

From performing tests to helping patients recover, they have been and remain leaders in our community. I am grateful to have worked with my colleagues in the 116th Congress to provide needed funding for vital personal protective equipment and ventilators.

EVARISTO "KIDANE" ARCE III

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2020

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Evaristo "Kidane" Arce III for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Evaristo "Kidane" Arce III is a 10th grader at Prairie View High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Evaristo "Kidane" Arce III is exemplary of the type of